



News Release

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State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](#) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Cowlitz County

In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Amy L. Ford** (RN.RN.00132500) after the Montana State Board of Nursing summarily suspended her credential to practice in that state.

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with registered nursing assistant **Donald J. Zeller** (NAR.NA.00197560) in which his credential is permanently revoked. Zeller was convicted in Cowlitz County Superior Court of one count of third-degree child rape, a Class C felony; one count of dealing in depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, a Class C felony; and two counts of possession of depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, class B felonies.

Jefferson County

In October of 2009 the Medical Quality Assurance Commission withdrew a statement of charges against physician **Robert H. Palmer** (MD00023938).

King County

In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Kenneth G. Chew** (RN.RN.00046905) for failure to comply with terms of an earlier order.

In September of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with **Terri L. Stecher** (NAR.NA.00146311) in which her registered nursing assistant credential is indefinitely suspended. Stecher misappropriated \$157,848.82 from her grandmother.

In October of 2009 the Department of Health entered into an agreed order with physician **Ceferino A. Fernandez** (MD.MD.00022075) in which his credential is suspended for at least five years. Fernandez had sexual contact with a patient.

In October of 2009 the Department of Health withdrew a statement of charges against massage practitioner **Victor Vysotsky** (MASS.MA.00012691).

Lincoln County

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the certified nursing assistant credential of **Michele L. Henderson** (NAC.NC.10048147). Henderson was convicted in Lincoln County Superior Court of possession of methamphetamine, a Class C felony, and of use of drug paraphernalia, a misdemeanor.

Pacific County

In October of 2009 the Department of Health suspended for at least five years the registered counselor credential of **Mel S. Gaines** (RC.RC.00053460), who had a sexual relationship with a client.

Pierce County

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the registered nursing assistant credential of **Brandy L. Ternes** (NAR.NA.00186976). Ternes tested positive for marijuana on a urine test.

In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission suspended for at least five years the registered nursing credential of **Suzette H. Marengo** (RN.RN.00113821). Marengo tested positive for methadone without a prescription, was convicted in Pierce County District Court of driving under the influence, diverted morphine and Vicodin for her own use, was twice convicted in Pierce County Superior Court of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, and was convicted in Pierce County Superior Court of violation of a protection order.

In October of 2009 the Department of Health summarily suspended the denturist credential of **Larisa Reznik** (DENR.DN.00000325). Reznik was denied a license in Maine after she practiced in Maine without a valid license.

Skagit County

In October of 2009 the Department of Health indefinitely suspended the emergency medical technician credential of **George H. Henderson** (EMT.ES.00130525). Henderson was convicted in Whatcom County District Court of domestic violence protection order violation, a gross misdemeanor, and later violated a domestic violence protection order and a no-contact order in Mount Vernon.

Spokane County

In September of 2009 the Board of Pharmacy revoked the credential of pharmacy technician **Lisa A. Roth** (PTEC.VA.00066652). Roth diverted controlled substances from the pharmacy where she worked and sold controlled substances for \$7,500.

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Stacy S. Sale** (NAR.NA.00109667) to reactivate her expired registered nursing assistant credential because she failed to disclose a previous suspension of her pharmacy technician credential.

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program indefinitely suspended the certified nursing assistant credential of **Jean Demmer** (NAC.NC.10082727). Demmer failed to respond to department investigators about a report she roughly combed a patient's hair, sold a patient's mother's personal property and refused other health care professionals access to a patient's medical supplies.

In October of 2009 the Department of Health entered into an agreed order with **Paul T. Armstrong** in which he agreed to cease and desist representing himself as a registered nurse. Armstrong, who holds no nursing credential, represented himself as a registered nurse when he applied for a job.

Thurston County

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended for at least three years the registered nursing assistant credential of **Michelle S. Davis** (NAR.NA.00195660) because she signed out, but didn't administer or return, Vicodin, a narcotic painkiller, from the long-term care facility where she worked.

In October of 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreed order with registered nursing assistant **Chrystal D. Chipman** (NAR.NA.00063833) in which her credential is suspended for at least two years. Chipman took for her own use a food stamp debit card that belonged to a resident at a long-term care facility where she worked.

Out of State

Idaho: In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the licensed practical nursing credential of **Daniel L. Austin** (LPN.LP.00052814) after the Idaho State Board of Nursing suspended his credential to practice in that state.

Illinois: In September of 2009 the Medical Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of physician **David T. Potter** (MD00046532) because of mental health and drug abuse issues that would place the public at risk if he were to practice medicine.

Michigan: In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Patricia J. Barrios** (RN.RN.00139289) after she surrendered her credential to practice in Oregon.

Nebraska: In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Karen Vivian** (RN.RN.60020775) after the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services suspended her credential to practice in that state.

Oregon: In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the licensed practical nursing credential of **Karen F. Knight** (LPN.LP.00058361) because the Oregon State Board of Nursing revoked her credential in that state.

In September of 2009 the Medical Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the physician assistant credential of **Hector G. Camacho-Perez-Arce** (PA10004193) after he surrendered his credential to practice in Oregon.

In October of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Shannon R. Stromberg** (RN.RN.00164684) after the California Board of Registered Nursing revoked her credential to practice in that state.

Texas: In September of 2009 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Sara A. Warren** (RN.RN.00153305) because she failed to comply with terms of an earlier stipulation.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at http://www.doh.wa.gov for a <i>healthy dose of information</i> .
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